

Montana School Readiness Teams
Activity and Funding Summary (May 2008)

- **Salish/Kootenai:** Cindy O'Dell, Salish/Kootenai College, PO Box 70, Pablo, MT 59855, 406-275-4752, cindy_odell@skc.edu

Team members include: Head Start, child care, other community Touchpoints partners.

Activities include: Annual Baby Fair, Child Find and Kindergarten roundup – gave book bags with book, readiness magnets and information for parents, part of Touchpoints.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000 and oral health grant

- **Sidney, MT:** Kathy Helmuth, Richland County Health Dept, 221 5th St SW, Sidney MT 59270, 406-433-2207, khhealth@richland.org

Team members include: County Health, child care, Public schools, Community Library, Hi-line Homes (Child Care Resource and Referral)

Activities include: part time coordinator, Lunch on the Courtyard Lawn with balloon release, news articles, Child Find, Health Fair, training sessions for professionals and one for parents on transitions into elementary school.

Amount of funding: \$3000, oral health grant, \$1500.

- **Libby, MT:** Sandy Elmore – Libby Special Ed Preschool, Elmores@libby.k12.mt.us

Team members include: Public schools, Head Start, Early Head Start, child care.

Activities include: purchase of and training on Zoo Phonics and High Reach curricula, travel to summits, presentation to Rotary Club, Parent training on Zoo Phonics and Love and Logic, Celebrate the Child event – free books and promotional materials, writing of a Plum Creek grant, purchase and distribution of Family Early Learning Guidelines, children's books and attendance at Families and Learning conference.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1500.

- **Ravalli County, MT:** John Filz, Ravalli County Head Start, 81 Kurtz Lane, Hamilton MT 59840 406-363-1217 x12, johnf@ravalliheadstart.org

Team members include: Head Start staff and Literacy partners.

Activities include: part time coordinator, PSA, talking points, power point, Community Luncheon, Business Luncheon, Family Early Learning Guidelines, School Readiness ad and informational postcard, community survey on readiness, Mike Halligan interviewed on local radio and presented at Business luncheon, children's books and large envelopes to send home learning reading packets three times during the 08/09 school year with tips for parents on reading to child.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000 and oral health grant, \$1500.

- **Crow Agency, MT:** Crow Agency Head Start, PO Box 129, Crow Agency, MT 59022, 406-638-3710

Team members include: Head Start

Activities include: an early childhood curriculum and training for staff

Amount of funding: \$3000

- **Missoula, MT:** Susan Barmeyer, Healthy Start, PO Box 3805, Missoula, MT 59806, 406-728-5437, healthystart@parentingplace.net

Team members include: WORD, Inc. Healthy Start Council, Child Care Resources, County Health, Easter Seals child care, Head Start, 3 people from Public Schools, Co-Teach Preschool (U of M).

Activities include: radio ads, brochures, Kids Fair, Spring Training, Parent Expo, Child Find, State of the Young Child, Public Health Conference, provider training, developmental screening. Used and distributed materials from Parenting Counts from Talaris and from the CDC.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000 and oral health grant, \$1500,

- **Lewistown, MT:** Janet Mann, District VI HRDC, 300 1st Ave. North STE 203, Lewistown MT 59457 406-538-7488, Jmann@mt.gov

Team members include: Child Care Resource and Referral, Head Start, Child Care, Library, Public School

Activities include: parent survey, community resource guide, parent check out kits in public library, speaker series on readiness.

Amount of funding: \$3000, oral health grant

- **Great Falls, MT:** Karla Seaman, Opportunities Inc Head Start, PO Box 2289, Great Falls MT 59403 406-453-5415, hskarla@3rivers.net

Team members include: Head Start, Public school, special ed, Child Care Resource and Referral, Title 1 (2 people), Montessori, WIC, parents, Extension.

Activities include: started with focus on Head Start and work with schools on Pre-K program, use of ASQ:SE in Head Start and oral health in Head Start, Children's Activity Fair – give aways, promotional materials, survey. Created a school readiness magnet, early childhood mental health brochure, and school readiness booklet. Including or part of the Great Falls early childhood task force led by the Center on Mental Health.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000 and oral health grant, \$1500,

- **Havre, MT:** Karen Thomas, HRDC IV, 2229 5th Ave, Havre, MT 59501, 406-265- 6743, thomask@hrdc4.havre.mt.us

- Marit Ita, Northern MT Child Dev Center, 2229 5th Ave, Havre MT 59501 406-265-5810, Itam@hrdc4.havre.mt.us

Team Members include: County Health, Extension, Quality Life Concepts, Head Start and Early Head Start, Child Care Resource and Referral, Health Clinic, Public Schools.

Activities include: Community resource DVD called Connect the Dots, Baby Instruction Manual, Family Early Learning Guidelines handed out at Child Find, Nurturing Program parent education, Breast pumps, community workshop for parents and child care providers, Child Find partnership, articles in newspaper, community early childhood investment team, purchased a vision screening machine to be shared by community partners.

Amount of funding: \$3000.

- **Bozeman, MT:** Ann Klass, Early Childhood Project – MSU, PO Box 173540, Bozeman, MT 59717, 406-994-7454, ann.klaas@montana.edu

Team members include: Early Childhood Project (2), Principal (2), Child Care Resource and Referral, Child Care (4), Thrive, Family Outreach, County Health, Hopa Mountain (Literacy), Head Start, Child Care (MSU), State Legislator, Kindergarten teacher, United Way.

Activities include: community collaboration and getting to know each other's work, community resource Road Map, work with United Way on Success by Six, Child Care conference, School Readiness article in the Montana Parent magazine, strategic planning – created a mission and

vision for team, set up community list serve and website connections, School Readiness banner, PSA's and TV ads, local senator wrote an editorial, promoted Turn Off TV week, held community conversation about child care issues, Baby Fair – gave away baby books with sticker inside noting it as a gift from the team, support for PowerPlay school readiness event for parents sponsored by Thrive.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000, oral health grant, \$1500,

- **Butte, MT:** Christina Barto, Aware Inc. Early Head Start, 237 E. Mercury, Butte, MT 59701, 406-782-0455, infants@aware-inc.org

Team members include: Early Head Start, Head Start, School District (2)

Activities include: Presentation to parents offering child care and food, open houses in the public schools, family literacy nights and children's books.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000, oral health grant, \$1500

- **Glendive, MT:** Brenda Stockert, Dawson community college, PO Box 421, Glendive, MT 59330, 406-377-9467, Brenda_S@dawson.edu

Team members include: Dawson Community College, Head Start, DEAP, School Principal, Healthy Communities, Parent Resource Center, School teacher.

Activities include: radio ads, part time coordinator, news articles and ads, a booth at the county fair. supplies for summer early childhood program at public library, school supplies for new kindergartners at county fair.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000 and oral health grant, \$1500

- **Helena, MT:** Sheilah Mevis, Child Care Partnerships, Inc., 901 N. Benton, Helena MT 59604, 406-443-4608, skmevis@childcarepartnerships.org
- Patty Dahl, RMDC Head Start, PO Box 1717, Helena, MT 59624, 406-457-7335 or pdahl@rmdc.net

Team members include: Head Start, Child Care Resource and Referral, Family Outreach, School District 9, School District 1, Townsend Schools, County Superintendent of Schools, Lincoln parent, Boulder parent.

Activities include: Week of the Young Child event Reading at the Capital and in schools and libraries in tri-county, created the original School Readiness magnet, banner, promotional materials from NAEYC, CDC, etc., news articles. Work with local early childhood task force.

Amount of funding: \$3000, \$1000, oral health grant

- **Browning, MT:** Susan Carlson, Blackfeet Head Start, PO Box 528, Browning, MT 59417, 406-338-7370, SusanC@inaksim.com

Team members include: Head Start, Early Head Start, Child Care

Activities include: Head Start activities related to Ready Child Equation, strategic planning, materials, part of Touchpoints.

Amount of funding: \$1000

- **Box Elder, MT:** Jay Viall, Head Start, PO Box 620, Route #1, Box Elder, MT 59521, 406-395-4690, rbhdstrt@mtintouch.net

Team members include: Head Start, was originally part of Havre team

- **Fort Belknap, MT:** Robert Fox, Head Start, RR#1 Box 66, Harlem, MT 59526, 406-353-2827
- Team members include:** Head Start

- **Fort Peck, MT:** Viola Wood, Head Start, PO Box 1027, Poplar, MT 59255, 406-768-5155 # 347, headstart@nemontel.net

Team members include: Head Start, schools

Activities include: school readiness posters, bumper stickers and ads. Working with each school district.

- **Lame Deer, MT:** Clyde Wolf Black, Northern Cheyenne Head Start, PO Box 128, Lame Deer, MT 59043, 406-477-6346, nchsp@hotmail.com

Team members include: Head Start

- **St. Regis, MT:** leader was Rita Shope but she has moved away and no one else has continued. She provided child scholarships to preschool, met with schools and school board, had a full page ad in local newspaper on Readiness and did some local training with child care providers on readiness.
Amount of funding: \$3000

As of July, 2008 there are 18 Community School Readiness teams. Some development needs to happen in Kalispell, Billings, and some tribal areas.